BBB EE GGG II NN N BBB EE G G III NN N BBB ER G GG III NN N BBB EES GGG II N NN ANN T HH COO AA REE EN PP U D LLLL LLLL V

ing for sure success.

\$2. until today a small investor during the last five years? Econ- means of transportation. eity limits. wealth. Rent is weste.

Is there a real estate opportunity anywhere left for a man or woman on a medium salary! Yes; em-

therefrom every evening. Those im- sary. A man too lazy to inquire TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES. mense crowds reside five to twenty around is too lazy to get rich. miles or more from their places of The following are some points to business. Mark my words. Washing- aid the judgment. ton will repeat the suburban history of the above named cities. Even today one is surprised to see by rail between 7 and 9 a. m. and leave town between 4 and 7 p. m. The suburban movement in Washington has scarcely commenced.

Today suburban lots, in healthy. desirable localities, can be bought people on a salary of \$75 or \$100 a month. Men and women who have not financial ability enough to save \$5 a month are to be pitied. An old age of penury stares them

brains to comprehend that the Na- with a fair salary, are short- vails, and other objections to lo- at 3 to 6 cents a foot. tional Capital will be a big city sighted and stupid. Ten years will cating along this road exist.

HOW TO SELECT A LOCATION. phatically there is. The saving of ers have heard so much about ma- feet higher than Washington. only \$5 a month is needed to se- laria, mosquitoes, lack of trans- West End Park at Rockville is 500 cure the opportunity and to make portation facilities, and other ob- feet above Washington. Malaria See the tens of thousands of peo- buying. This question of location quitoes are so rare as to be pracple crowding into Boston, New must be decided like every other tically absent. York. Philadelphia and Chicago important matter. Careful investievery morning and rushing out gation to secure the truth is neces

> FIRST, CONSIDER THE ALTI-TUDE.

AN IDIOT to be who has not the saving something monthly, if blessed road. More or less malaria pre- 2.000 inhabitants, lots are offered

within a few years. Does this fact pass before they comprehend where Again, to reach the high and at present into Maryland are ofof the rapid growth of Washington the time has gone. Instead of healthy regions of Virginia a ride fered by the Baltimore and Ohio mean an opportunity for any en- being worth \$3,000 to \$10,000 at across the Potomac river with its system. From twenty to thirty terprise? Yes; a magnificent open- the end of that period, as many of dangers is necessary. Then a ride trains daily stop at the stations on their saving friends will be, they of some miles along the malarious the two lines of this road. Horse Thousands of men and women to- may find themselves dependent on river banks is required. In addi- or electric care into the close-by day are bemeaning their lack of the cold charity of relatives. Noone tion, only one train a day runs Washington suburbs have their judgment ten or fifteen years ago then will remember or care the from Washington past Falls Church advantages, but within their reach that they did not then buy Wash- snap of a finger how this couple after 4 o'clock p. m. A resident the price of land is so high and ington real estate. They have dressed in 1892 or what delight- there, employed in Washington, the terms so hard as to put such since seen F street property rise ful socials they gave or how other. who misses that one slow train lots beyond the means of people in from \$5 a foot to \$60, and Capitol wise they wasted their money must wait till next day or walk medium circumstances. In winter Hill lots advance from 10 cents to foolishly. What have you saved home, unless he can secure other horse or electric cars are cold and

> outlet is the Metropolitan Branch from doors and windows. of the Baltimore and Ohio system. At Silver Springs, only seven miles THIRD, CONSIDER SOCIAL Some would-be suburban purchas- out, this road is more than 300

> > SECOND, CONSIDER THE

A place that cannot, this very day, be reached from business under an hour is not worth buying. People in medium circumstances cannot afford to run the risk of promised railroad facil-The topographical map of the re- ities. For ten years and more this. gion near Washington, prepared that and the other railroad has by D. J. Howell and published by been promised into Virginia and on the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, many people have been induced between Baltimore and Washington, to "buy now, before the rise runs through a low valley, the in prices." It is wiser to pay hills near by rarely reach beyond a higher price and get a cer-100 to 200 feet above the water tainty. Poor people cannot afford level of Washington. The result to gamble in land. How long it is malaria and mosquitoes. Names will be before fair transportation of people driven from this region facilities are offered slong the Poknows, but all interested naturally The Baltimore and Potomac rail- hope very soon. On mere promises road runs through a tract of coun- of such facilities lots have sold SELFISHNESS AND STUPIDITY. try only about a hundred feet there at 15 cents a foot, whereas Ayoung married couple who are not higher than the before mentioned in Rockville, a county seat of about

The best transportation facilities frequently crowded, while sickness can rarely buy a lot within the omy is the only sure road to The only other steam railroad often results from drafts coming

ADVANTAGES

subdivision claim that their place jections, that they hesitate about is unknown at Rockville, and mos- will become a populous town at an early day. The prices of their lots are very little, if any, lower than at towns already in existence. Yet, simply on promises and expectations, people buy lots at places where there is not a railroad station, a store, a church, a school, and sometimes not even a house, except, possibly, an old farm house and a stable. Other people pay big prices at little villages where there are only one or two stores, one or two churches, per haps a school, perhaps a little the Geological Survey, shows that the strength of these promises Mr. Jones is pushing the developtown hall. They say Mr. Smith or ment of the village and it must become a large town.

Perhaps it is true that every healthy locality has some one single, peculiar advantage. But a lot purchaser should choose r place that COMBINES THE by its unhealthy character can be tomac above Georgetown no one VANTAGES, that is to say, actual, present existing advan tages, as well as future possibili.

TAGES AT BOCKVILLE.

A careful student of all the various locations must reach the following conclusions: 1st. It is the wisest thing to go out on the Metropolitan Branch of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. 2d. Of all the places in this high and healthy region Rockville offers the greatest present and future inducements. Here is the list: 1. It is the county seat and will grow with the county.

2. It has nearly 2.000 people already, and doubled its population n the past four years. It will have 5.000 people within a few years.

3. It offers the most railroad trains, being from 30 to 40 per cent more than at any other point on the line within 16 miles. Express trains from Washington reach The promoters of nearly every Rockville in thirty minutes, which is sooner than the local trains reach several points nearer Washington. In time, the modern standard by which distance is measured. Rockville is nearer the Center Market of Washington than are Brightwood, Fort Myer and some other high-priced suburbs. When you reach Rockville you are at a place worth living in.

4. It is 500 feet above Washington. This fact insures cool nights in summer and freedom from malaria and mosquitoes. The result is health and comfort.

5. It has seven groceries, four markets and numerous stores of various kinds, so obviating the nuisance of carrying a market basket to Washington nearly every day. Thus waste of time and money in shopping in Washington is saved. 6. Cheap living. Every place between Washington and Rockville pays Washington prices, or nearly so, for food. Rockville prices are

cents a quart in Rockville. Best been compelled to resort to false- guarantee the like big profit on

nominations, several public and promises outweigh solid, present, rapid growth, which is demonprivate schools, one national bank, actual facts. "An ounce of now is strated by the recent starting of a three hotels, three livery stables, worth a pound of will be." while four physicians are at hand in case of accident or sudden sick. ness. Brick sidewalks run along Of two to ten acres or more will real estate around Washington, esthe principal streets, which streets be sold at \$350 to \$450 an acre. pecially to the northwest of town. are macadamized.

abundance.

9. Dry cellars and rich soil for West End station. gardens.

10. Telegraph and extensive mail facilities. In cases of accidents or sudden sickness, friends in Washington can be promptly notified and can come out on the next train, which may be an express. 11. It offers the conveniences of a city united with the attractions of the country.

12. With these superior advantages it is attracting an intelligent class of people. Several army, navy and marine corps officers, active and retired, live here. have residences here, both for from malaria and mosquitoes. summer and permanently. The native residents are cultivated and refined, and hospitable to

13. Among its future promises is the Tennallytown and Bockville electric railroad, which is already built to Bethesds Park, about five miles distant from the county seat, Rockville, which is its terminal point under its charter.

CONCLUSION.

meats sell in Rockville at 10 to 16 hoods to prevent investors from future investments with me, but I cents a pound. Fresh butter, of going there. Sectional and other am confident that every investor best quality, 25 cents in summer. prejudices have been invoked to will be more than gratified. Eggs 15 cents a dozen, when 20 to influence weak-minded people At every village on this Metro-25 cents is the price elsewhere to- against Rockville. Lots at the politan Branch investors have

8. Pure water in the greatest Park at Rockville contains 5:0 \$100,000 on Oak View, Secretary

HOW THE METROPOLITAN BRANCH HAS GROWN.

people. I carefully investigated the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, the advantages and disadvatages of and to the north and west of Georgethe several localities around the town. National Capital and concluded that the bane of southern life, malaria, existed to more or less extent in every other direction, and that the Metropolitan Branch of the B. and O. that stretches over Many professional, official and the hills between Washington and business people from Washington Harper's Ferry was alone free I invested on this railroad first

at Knowles, now Kensington, and my lots were sold in 1887 at \$90 each. This past season my lots there sold at \$400. Kensington thirty days, of changing to another lots, recently put on the market by Mr. Warner of the Washington Do not delay. You have let other as high as \$850. The county land this chance. records show the sale of many lots there at \$500 and \$600 each. How do these profits compare with 6 per cent a year? Take your pencil fully 25 per cent lower than Wash. Think carefully before acting. and figure out the per cent profit ington prices. Ask any resident Can you find a place which offers between \$90 in 1887 and \$400 in along the line how much he pays anything like the COMBINATION 1891. More than 300 per cent for milk. Eight cents a quart at OF ADVANTAGES presented by profit in four years is not to be least, will be the reply. Only 5 Rockville? Its competitors have succeed at. Of course, I cannot

ward Washington. Besides being county seat are much cheaper, or made money. At Gaithersburg, 21 cheap the food is fresh and healthy. as cheap, as at the embryo villages miles from Washington and 5 miles 7. Churches of the principal de- elsewhere. Do not let glittering beyond Rockville, there has been national bank at that point.

An immense pile of money has been recently made in suburban and on liberal terms. West End President Cleveland cleared at least acres and fronts on the railroad at Whitney the like sum on Grasslands, Mr. Glover of Riggs' Bank is reputed to have profited nearly a quarter of a million, and many men who were called poor a few years was called to the early need of result of their real estate deals suburban homes for Washington slong the Metropolitan Branch of

SEIZE THE GOLDEN OPPOR-

TUNITY.

Those who come first get the best lots. Come at once. Those who buy without examination on the ground have the privilege, within rich opportunities escape. Seize

The following circulars will be sent

"How Can I Get Rich?" "I Told You So." and "Peerless Rockville."

Address.

PROPRIETOR WEST END PARK.

CITY OFFICE: No. 706 8TH ST. N. W., WASHINGTON. D.C. OFFICE HOURS: FROM 8:30 A.M. To 4:30 P.M.



THE NATIONAL GUARD

Advice-A Complete Roster of the Detach-

ment That Will Go to Sea Girt-The Third

Battalion Defended-Notes. EADY FOR ANY AND all competitors; not overconfident nor yet in-

clined to imagine itself an inferior body of sharpshooters; hopeful that earnest application may bear satisfying fruit; intent on doing the best it knows howsuch is the condition in which the brigade rifle team of the District National Guard finds itself

on the eve of what is expected to be the most esting competitive occasion in its history. Next Thursday morning at 9:40 o'clock the members of the brigade team and of the teams from the first and second regiments, the engineer corps and the sixth battalion will leave Washington from the Baltimore and Potomac station; by 5 p.m. of the same day they hope to be at Sea Girt, where, a few days later, they are to compete with numerous accreastions. See Girt, where, a few days later, they are to compete with numerous aggregations of National Guardsmen whose reputations for skill as marksmen are by no means insignificant. Local representation at Sea Girt will be larger this year than ever before. The brigade team will take eighteen men—the shooting twelve and six alternates—and there will be nearly as many more in the party. The regimental and engineer teams (of six men each) will come almost entirely out of the brigade eighteen;

their extra men and the team quartermaster brought the number up to twenty-three.

On Thursday Lieut Tomminson of company B, sixth battalion, made preliminary arrangements for movement Jerseyward of a sixth battalion crowd, and yesterday it was figured out that the entire detachment will consist of at least thirty-five reasonably expert shots and good soldiers.

unteer brigade in the country.
Then Gen. Ordway dropped in. The general

is very much interested in the team, so when he was requested to say something he did not require much time in which to get started. Loyalty to the brigade and to each other and unquestioning obedience to the team captain were the main lines of a deeply interesting address, to which every person present listened with pleasure and profit.

THE COLUMBIA TROPHY. Hundreds of people have expressed themselves as pleased with the artistic appearance of the Columbia trophy—the bronze work of art which will be presented to the state of New Jer-sey by the District National Guard. For the past two or three days the bronze figure has been on exhibition in Mr. Hutterly's window on G street, opposite the city post office, and there it will remain until the team departs for Sea Girt. The trophy will go with the baggage and some time during the meeting will be form-ally presented to the state authorities by Gen. ally presented to the state authorities by Gen. Ordway. The height of the trophy is three feet five inches. Just now a slight change is being made in the design. Instead of putting the necessary inscription on a metal plate after the regular fashion it will be engraved on the silver head of a copper-handled hatchet. The hatchet—which is the emblem of the District National Guard—will rest, gainst the tree trunk National Guard-will rest : gainst the tree trunk

hat eartially supports the figure. HERE ARE THE NAMES. The complete roster of those who will go as Interest New Centers on the Brigade
and Other Teams.

TO SEA GIRT ON THURSDAY.

Gen. Ordway Gives the Team Members Good
Advice—A Complete Roster of the Detach.

Interest New Centers on the Brigade

members of the brigade team—six of them alternates—is as follows: Capt. James E. Bell, I. R. P., second regiment; Capt. W. L. Cash, I. R. P., first regiment; Private Walter S. Cash, second regiment; Corp. C. W. Dickey, engineer corps; Lieut. F. L. Graham, engineer corps; Lieut. F. L. Himebaugh, company C, first battalion; Sergt. A. O. Hutterly, engineer corps; Commissary Sergeant C. H. Laird, second regiment; Sergt. T. T. Page, company A, sixth battalion; Private S. B. Rollins, company D, third battalion; Quartermaster Sergeant nembers of the brigade team-six of them D. third battalion; Quartermaster Sergeant S. D. Rotramel, fourth battalion; Sergt. Russell, company D. third battalion; Sergt. Russell, company D. third battalion; Corp. R. B. Smythe, engineer corps; Lieut. James M. Stewart, I. R. P., third battalion; Private S. B. Wetherald, engineer corps; Private G. B. Young, engineer corps.

engineer corps.

Those who will accompany the team for the purpose of completing the regimental and engineer teams of six are Corp. Maurice Appleby, company B, third battalion; First Lieut. T. S. King, I. R. P., fifth battalion; Private A. S. McClain, company B, sixth battalion; Private S. I.

Scott, engineer corps.
Lieut. Tomlinson's team and alternates will consist of himself and the following: Private H. Blanton, Sergt. W. E. Buell, Private P. J. Byrne, Capt. W. S. Davenport, Corp. G. D. Ellsworth, Private G. W. King, Private J. A. Kirk, Corp. B. F. Odell and Private J. E. Swigart, all of company B, sixth battalion.

Lieut. W. P. Vale, I. R. P., sixth battalion an old team man who has been unable to prac-

tice this year—and Private Joseph Van Fleet of company A, sixth battalion, will also be of the For a time it seemed as though Private Wal-ter Cash would be disqualified for brigade or regimental team work, but his re-enlistment papers—never turned in by his ex-captain were discovered in time to put everythin

SOME WHO WILL VISIT CAMP. Gen. Ordway, Aujt. Gen. Mosher aud, it may be, one or two of the other members of the brigade staff, expect to be at Sea Girt during the greater portion of the week commencing September 1. Several members of the team detachment will be visited while in camp by relatives and friends from this city. Of course, there are no accommodations for non-military guests on the camp ground, but there are first-class hotels within easy reach. Hotels are more than numerous on the Jersey coast.

PULL DRESS FOR THE BRIGADE. It is almost certain that within a month or so there will be something like an organized effort and good soldiers.

Most of these were in Col. Clay's room at second regiment headquarters last night. There was a team meeting, and as many of the regulation full-dress uniform. Gen. Ordway spelly to all the members of the party white under special orders everybody (with two or three excused exceptions) who is going to Sea Girt was present. After Capt Parmenter, the team quartermaster, had distributed a sufficient supply of campaign hats and made plain the business arrangements for the trip Lieut. George H. Harries, captain of the team, talked awhile of the necessity for mutual helpfulness and the

preservation of that soldierly conduct which hour, the excuse for garish uniforms is a very commo speaks a follows: "Well-nigh all the decorative attributes of the French army were done away with as 'symbols of tyranny' by the guiding spirits of the great revolution, and the officer who, under Pichegru, Augereau, Hoche, Klebe who, under Pichegru, Augereau, Hoche, Kleber and other successful generals of that heroic epoch, led the republican troops to victory were scarcely distinguishable from the rank and file in respect to the fashion and quality of their apparel. Napoleon Bonaparte, well aware that the Spartan simplicity and inexpensiveness of republican uniforms would be absurdly out of keeping with the demand for display inci-dent to a brand-new military empire, deemed no costume too ornamental or costly for the offi-cers of an army that raised him to supreme power and enabled him to conquer Conti Europe.

MURAT WAS A SOLDIERLY DUDE. "The 'beau sabreur,' Joachim Murat, some time Grand Duke of Berg and King of Naples, was a type of Napoleonic military gaudiness. In his famous portrait by Isabey he is represented as he rode past his illustrious patron at a grand review held in the last year of the foregoing century mounted on a powerful gray charger, all the trappings of which were mas-

sively plated with pure gold. The marshal was attired in a blue velvet tail coat, with scarlet and gold facings, searlet tights enriched with heavy gold embroidery, half-high boots of purple leather worked through and edged with gold braid, and a huge cocked hat trimmed with broad gold lace and surmounted by a triple plume of crimson ostrich feathers. Round his waist were knotted two silken sashes. one very broad, of pale lilac hue, profusely bordered and fringed with gold; the other narrower, bright scarlet in color and similarly or-namented. He was seated on a leopard skin, stretched over a crimson and gold saddle cloth. His spurs, stirrups and the scabbard of his jewel-hilted saber were all of fine burnished gold. It may be doubted whether Solomon in all his glory was ever as showily arrayed as a marshal of France under the consulate or first

empire.
"In all the principal armies of Europe, including our own, until a comparatively recent date the habit—contracted early in the present century—of subordinating utility to decorativeness in relation to officers' uniforms lent itself, 're-gardless of expense,' to military dandyhood, which flourished exceedingly as lately as twentyfive years ago. Blow after blow, however, was dealt to this variety of foppism by successive improvements in 'arms of precision,' exempli-fied during the sanguinary struggles of 1866, at the battle of Mentana, and throughout the Franco-German war, the Servian rebellion and Franco-German war, the Servian rebellion and the Russian invasion of Turkey. The formidable extension of point-blank ranges, both for rifles and field guns, and the corresponding increment of skill in marksmanship, which were the inevita-ble outcome of those improvements, impera-tively indicated the necessity of eliminating every element of conspicuity from the apparel of soldiers, and more especially of their officers, when on service.

THE DANGERS OF A BRILLIANT UNIFORM. "It was these new conditions of war, bringing with them an enormous increase in the number of casualties, that led to the abolition of the gay of casualties, that led to the abolition of the gay white uniforms that formerly imparted so brilliant an appearance to the Austrian line, but were so distinctly visible at long distances as to prove the indisputable cause of the slaughter in Bohemia and Lombardy alike of thousands upon thousands of gallant fellows who might be alive at the present day had they been dressed in dark blue, bottle green or dark brown materials during the summer of 1866. The British army has stuck to its scarlet, a color no less perilous to its wearer in time of war than the Austrian white, but our military authorities have for some years past recognized the expediency of clothing expediency forces war than the Austrian white, but our military authorities have for some years past recognized the expediency of clothing expeditionary forces in drab kharkee, which offers an indistinct mark to barbaric sharpshooters and ganners, and is as antagonistic to military dandylsm as the dusky blue of the hideous Austrian blouses, the livid nondescript hue of the Italian tunics or the dirty greens and grays of the Russian coats and mantles.

"Here, as well as in frugal Prussia and poverty-stricken Russia, a few of the pristing

"Here, as well as in frugal Prussia and pov-erty-stricken Russia, a few of the pristine splendors of guard, cavalry and household bri-gades still survive the unbeauteous reforms superinduced by salutary prudence and a laud-able desire to economize human life to the ut-most; but the terrible lessons taught by mod-ern warfare to the military administrations of all nations have steadfastly tended toward the abolition of all the brilliant colors and glitter-ing adornments of a soldier's equipment for the field which are calculated to augment the perils he is called upon to brave when fighting in his country's cause."

last Saturday by "An Old Soldier."
"As a member of the third battalion," says
the lieutenant, "and one who was with the command during the entire encampment, I consider it my duty, both in justice to the commanding officer of the third battalion, Maj. T. B. Harri-son (whose name itself should be a refutation of such charges) and the officers and enlisted men who composed his command during that encampment, to eradicate, if possible, the erron-

ous impressions conveyed to the minds by "Old oldier's" remarks.
Par. 5. Orders No. 23, dated headquarters third battalion, D.C.N.G., Washington, Au-

gust 5, 1892, is as follows:

* * * "The object of the camp is instruction in military duty, to which all other considerations must be subordinated, but when off duty the men will be encouraged to enjoy themselves in every reasonable manner. Now I venture to say, and without fear of contradiction, that that paragraph was strictly enforced in the spirit and to the letter.

I have participated in a number of encamp-ments, both brigade and battalion, since I have had the honor of being a member of the Dis-trict National Guard, and I have no hesitancy in saying that I believe the encampment of the third battalion, recently held at Colonial Beach, from a strictly military standpoint, was without precedent in the history of the National Guard of the District of Columbia.

After showing box attentive the battalion

After showing how attentive the battalion was to guard duty, drills and ceremonies, Lieut. Columbus says: "After the close of the military day and 'taps' had sounded the silence that prevailed was more marked than any I ever experienced in any other Netices [Cond.] perienced in any other National Guard encamp-ment. That members of the command when off duty enjoyed themselves ('like a lot of school boys') I will not attempt to deny, but that is not a violation of any article of war, nor is it an 'unmilitary proceeding.' Now, in reference to the special charge that the command indulged in practical jokes at the expense of the major commanding. This, I presume, had its origin in the publication of the letter of the 18th of August, in which the writer (who is well known to us all) humorously describes a certain non-com. appearing before the major's tent in a bathing dress, &c. The facts of the case are these: This non-commissioned officer, who had arrayed himself in the costume described did not recorded himself in the costume described and did not recorded himself in the costume described and did not recorded himself in the costume described and did not recorded himself in the costume described and did not recorded himself in the costume described and did not recorded himself in the costume described and did not recorded and scribed, did not parade himself before the com-manding officer's tent, but the major saw him, nevertheless, and quickly ordered him to don nevertheless, and quickly ordered him to don his uniform and never again so offend, under a severe penalty. The writer of the description only saw the humor in the situation, and I am satisfied never wrote it expecting any such criticism as 'Old Soldier' subjected it to. Taking the encampment as a whole. I think the officers the encampment as a whole, I think the officers and men who composed Maj. Harrison's com-mand upon that occasion have, by their gentle-manly conduct, their strict obedience to orders manly conduct, their strict openience to order and their uniform courtesy and respect to their superiors, made a record for themselves that they and their friends in the District of Columbia can well afford to be proud of." NOTES.

It looks now as though Gen. Ordway was going to disband that fragment of a company which is now the only surviving portion of the fifth battalion—the Sheridan Rifles. Gossip around the armory has it that unless the com-pany is speedily recruited up to the logal minimum it will cease to exist before the first

the "committee on public comfort," in charge on the ground ground, consisted of Capt. Fors-berg, Lieuts. Robbins, Alexander and Forsberg, Corp. Tappan and Prvts. Fletcher, Tappan, Lombard and Pierce.

Another company, composed of ex-High School Cadets, is an easy possibility in the near future. A battalion, composed exclusively of these finely drilled and promising young

Superstitions That Have for Ages Attached to the Opal.

A LIGHTNING'S FEASH.

One Theory as to the Origin of the Brillian -To Some It Has Brought Bad Luck, While to Others It Has Been the Cause of Great

Written for The Evening Star.



HE SUPERSTITIOUS dreads and fancies surrounding the beautiful opal date back to ancient times, but the cause for placing this brilliant stone under the ban, as well as the origin of this popular sentiment working against it, is unknown. The word opal is derived from a Greek word signifying eye.

An old writer says: "It is reported that this stone sharpeneth the sight of the possessor of it and cloudeth the eyes of those that stand about him, so that they can either not see or not mind, so this done before them; for this cause it is asserted to be a safe patron of thieves and thefts." It is the stone of October, according to a popular Polish super-stition which gives to each month a particular gem, and is also supposed to form the destiny of persons born in that month and it is customof persons born in that month, and it is custom-ary among lovers and friends to present each other on the anniversary of their birth with some trinket containing their tutelary gem, ac-companied with an appropriate wish. The sen-timent coupled with the opal is that it denotes misfortune and hope; that it is fatal to love and sows discord between the giver and re-ceiver. Given as an engagement token it is ceiver. Given as an engagement token it is sure to bring ill luck to all not born in the month of October.

sure to bring ill luck to all not born in the month of October.

The belief in gems being endowed with marvelous and supernatural powers had its origination in India, the cradle and first home of all gems, spreading rapidly throughout the ancient world, as recorded in many passages of the Bible. Thus we are told in the twenty-eighth chapter of Exodus that gems were an indispensable adjunct in the attire of a high priest. The belief in precious stones as a charm exists in India today, and particularly so in Persia, where the shah puts the firmest faith in the protection afforded by his accumulation of rare gems, valued at over \$20,000,000. His faith was strengthened by the bullet of a wouldfaith was strengthened by the bullet of a would-be assassin being turned aside by the casket of jewels which the "king of kings" wears always

CAME IN THE LIGHTNING'S PLASE. One of the most enjoyable excursions of the season was that given by the light battery on Wednesday evening last to Marshall Hall. Every one who went had a good time. The business was attended to by a committee of which Sergt. J. H. Griffiths was chairman, while the "committee on public comfort" to the "committee of the committee of the co of history that the opal was the favorite gem of the Romans, and so far from being feured or looked upon with suspicion and aversion, it was eagerly sought for, as it was supposed to possess the power of warning against disaster. The Arabians ascribed to it supernatural powers, their ardent imaginations swayed and stimulated by the flashing play of ever-chauging colors. As a matter of fact the poculiar flashes of light upon the opsi are caused by flasures and flaws in the body of the gum.

The disliks to the opsi has been attributed to the Bussians, for the stone is, so unpopular among the subjects of the exar that should one of them happen to deary an opsi nothing will

ts owner by rendering him lovable and bestowing upon him the gift of invisibility, which made it the patron stone of robbers. To be on the right side of this gem's influence some uthorities say that none ought ever to accept

t as a present.

It has been asserted that the opal was not considered unlucky in England until Sir Walter Scott published his "Anne of Geierstein." He alludes to the belief that the Mexican opal loses its beauty when exposed to the action of water, and puts this down to super tural agency. The unpopularity of the opal is, however, capable of being explained in a more prosaic manner. It is a well-known fact that the opal when worn as a ring is very apt to escape from its setting in a most unaccountable manner. This arises from the fact that the opal possesses the characteristic of being slightly enlarged under the influence of heat. When the owner's hand gets hot it is liable to swell and force the setting of the characteristic order. open to a certain extent. When it grows cold again the gem returns to its original size. This process is repeated until the setting becomes sufficiently enlarged to allow the stone to drop

out unnoticed. EUGENIE HATED THE OPAL. The Empress Eugenie had a superstitious dread amounting to positive aversion for the beautiful opal, and the stone was a stranger at the brilliant court. It is possible that Eugenie may have been influenced in her hatred of the gem from Josephine's fondness for it, and attributed to the mysterious workings of the fiery mineral some subtle, malign influence that conspired to bring about her downfall. But the fact remains inscribed upon the pages of history that, although the opal was vigorously banished from Versailles and the Tuilleries, Eugenie fled from Paris under cover of dark-ness, cowering in terror in the dusty depths of a shabby vehicle, with the savage roar of an ina snabby venicle, with the savage ross of an and under the protection of an American dentist who invariably wore an opal and diamond pin.

In deep contrast is the sterling good sense of England's great queen, who admires and values

England's great queen, who admires and values the gem to such a degree that she numbers them among her choicest family gifts.

The records regarding old opal mines are lost, but it is supposed that the ancients derived their supply from Arabia and Syria. The famous Hungarian mines were not discovered until late in the fifteenth century, and of course were unknown to the Romans. The principal mines from where opals are obtained today are situated in Hungary and Honduras. Ouartz situated in Hungary and Honduras. Quartz when flawed in the interior sometimes exhibits a remarkable iridescence, and resembles the opal, especially when viewed at a distance. A FAMOUS OPAL OF HISTORY.

The famous opal of history was that which was worn in a ring by the Roman senator Nowas worn in a ring by the Roman senator Nonius in the days of the triumvirate. Its size
scarcely exceeded that of a hazelnut, yet its
beauty and brilliancy rendered it a marvel among
the dilettanti of Rome and it was valued at
\$1,000,000. Marc Antony, bearing in mind the
ascrifice of Cleopatra's incomparable pearl and
still enslaved by the Egyptian queen's irresistible charms,made overtures for the opal, intending to present it to the dusky beauty, but Nonius
refused to part with his cherished gem and
sought safety in flight. The extreme beauty
and charm of the gem may be estimated when
it is known that to a Roman bardshment was
worse than death. History makes no further
mention of this wonderful opal. It has disappeared from the world's collection of gems and
its glories have probably yielded to the de-

come Mrs. Berry Wail and Miss West is Mrs. either to prevent or create disaster is a question that must be decided by those who believe in

SUPERSTITIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES. There are sensible women who are not super stitious, but who frankly admit they have prejudice against opals. There is a lady in New York who has a full set of opals and diamond earrings, pins, bracelets, rings and hat pins. She was once prosperous and lived in wealth, but in the last five years has had more misfortune than usually befalls one woman. Divorce, loss of fortune and parents followed quickly, and she never wears her opals; in fact, she disposed of them, but, as her friends stated, too late. Another lady ascribes misfortune to a beautiful opal ring which she keeps because it is an heirioom, but will not wear it nor allow her children to wear it. It was given to her by her brother when on his deathstands. her brother when on his deathbed, and after his death she were it. The very first might the water pipes burst and caused a damage of sev eral thousand dollars. She had had a presenti-ment when she put on the ring that something was going to happen, and after that night she ceased to wear it. Several years later daughter put it on and a gentleman friend was so taken with its appearance that he asked to wear it. What followed is considered remark-able. He had been very prosperous and had lately mounted the ladder of prosperity rapidly. Shortly afterward he fell as suddenly. He returned the ring, having become a convert to the

popular superstition.

A strange story is told of an opal belonging to an old Virginian family. It was a magnificent fine opal and had been bequeathed to the eldest son in the American branch by an old uncle in opal, especially when viewed at a distance. Such specimens are called "tris." The elegant iris ornaments worn by the Empress Josephine were of remarkable brilliancy and the wonder and envy of the imperial court. She also possessed the finest opal of modern times, which was only displayed when arrayed in all the grandeur of full court dress. It was indeed a fitting ornament for so beautiful a woman. Its flashing rays of light were so powerful and vivid as to give the appearance of living flames of fire, and from that it received its title "I Incendired Troie" in the burning of Troy. The fate of the gem is unknown, but with the history of the fair owner the most casual reader is familiar.

A FAMOUS ORM, OF MESON.

returned to find the girl he loved married. One day early in their acquaintance he had shown her the opal and because she had given a little cry of pleasure he had it set in a ring and presented her with it.

It was not long after his return from abroad that he beard in quick succession of the Jeath of her father, mother and brother, and then one day he received a letter from her with a casket, containing the opal ring. The letter begged him to take back the gem lest it should bring more calamities to her and her house. Barely had this reached him when a telegram came from her husband announcing his wife's sudden death. Soon after the voung man's father died and heart broken he left his native state for California. It may not have been the opal, but the owner no longer carries it among his possessions.

But the opal is not without its defenders and But the opal is not without its defenders and champions. A Maiden Lane jeweler asserts that the opal is anything but an unlucky stone. Good fortune, he asserts, goes with the opal, and all who desire to win the smiles of the blind goddess should provide themselves with the stone in some shape. "A customer of mine," he said, "told me a little story regarding the power of the opal. Last Christmas his wite made him a present of a scarfpin set with an opal. At the time he had a morigage on his house, his business—he is a coffee broker—and had been dabbling with the money side of the market, was in a desperate condition; he was

pends upon its size and the intensity of its fire and combination of colors. The colors displayed by an onal embrace all the tints in the solar spectrum. The shades of green, blue, of the prettiest combinations in the jew-let's art is the opal surrounded with diamends. The foolish prejudice and dark supersitions are rapidly dving out and the value of the gem, which had reached low-water mark during its banishment, has increased lately over 39 per cent. During the last two years the trade and demand in the gem has increased at a rapid pace and ten times as many opals are imported now as during the preceding decade.

Young ladies in Washington are firm belevers in the efficiency and potency of the gem. They are providing themselves with the long-neglected stone and the following circumstance accounts for it all:

The Spanish minister sometime ago presented a Mexican opal to each of the following and Miss Flora West. The first named is now Mrs. Charles Carroll, Miss Melbourne has become Mrs. Berry Wail and Miss West is Mrs. Salanson.

that must be decided by those who believes the efficacy of charms that have from the car-liest age been attributed to a greater or less de-gree to precious stones of all descriptions. H.D.S. THE SCARE IN LONDON.

Vigorous Measures Adopted by the Health Authorities

The officials of the London local government board charged to watch the progress of cholera were yesterday less confident of the metropolis escaping a visitation of the disease. The Gravesend cases are undoubtedly cases of Asiatic cholera. The medical officers, although they inspected the steamer Gamma, from which the cholera-stricken passengers were landed, permitted a number of other passengers to proceed to London under the excuse that they had not been in contact with that part of the vessel where the infection showed itself. To assuage alarm the authorities allege that precautions were taken to disinfect the passengers, but this statement, which has only been made since the character of the disease declared itself, is dis-credited. With cholera at Gravesend and infected persons probably ronning about in their midst some outbreak of the disease in London

WATCHING LONDON.

The port of London is not properly watched. The sanitary committee has applied for a vast increase of staff, otherwise it cannot undertake the surveillance of ships entering the Thames from infected continental ports. The port staff is daily being reinforced, as the officers are overworked inspecting, disinfecting and burning clothing, bedding, &c., but no Thames cordon will suffice to shut out the danger of infection. A stream of arrivals from the continent comes via Harwick, Southempton and other ports by train without inspection. Railways and steamship companies, executing the other ports by train without inspection. Rail-ways and steamship companies, excepting the transatlantic lines, show no intention of sus-pending their ordinary arrangements. In spite of the setting up of quarantine in foreign ports traffic will continue, making supervision of the Thames almost valueless.

DANGER IN THE WATER The authorities expect an outbreak and are

preparing to meet it. Never were the slum districts so pestered by emissaries of the sanitary boards. In the cast end, where the last epidemic (that of 1866) killed 16.003 persons in a few weeks, the water supply has been tested and found to be of doubtful quality, and changes have been ordered in the filtering apparatus. The people of South London have been warned that their water is a source of danger. A feature of the crisis is the energy with which the local authorities in every district are working to face the danger. Withal, there is not the riightest panic apparent. The chances of a visi ation will diminish as the weather cools and public confidence in the sani'ary arrangements and vigulance of the authorities is absolute. The report of the death of two alients at Gravesend was telegraphed throughout the country and caused the health author, ies at the various ports to be on the alert for arrivals from places known to be infected with chole a.